# Dairying and Stock Raising

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# Dairying and Stock Raising

IN Oregon, dairying and stock raising rank among the most profitable industries of the State. They are staple, thoroughly established and of considerable magnitude. Yet their present development is far below their possibilities. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of suitable land to be secured at figures that represent large returns if used for these purposes. Oregon today fails to supply many of the food stuffs that can be produced to the greatest advantage on her own soil. This is especially true of meats and dairy products. And for men producing these commodities, the returns are large, certain and permanent.

## Dairying.

Of all the farm animals, the dairy cow is the most sensitive to conditions. An adequate answer to the question, "What will the cow do for the farmer?" is entirely dependant upon the converse query, "What can the farmer do for the cow?" The modern milch cow is a laboratory on hoofs. For generations innumerable she has been bred and habituated with but one purpose in view: the production of milk. The quantity and quality of this product is in equation with the quantity and suitability of the feed given her and the warmth and cleanliness of her housing, general care and attention. The countries in which dairying is most successfully followed include especially England, Germany, Holland, Denmark and Switzerland. These countries are notably moist and cool. In America the region most nearly approaching these conditions is undoubtedly the Pacific Northwest. Not only by comparison but by actual achievement has Oregon proved itself to be eminently adapted to dairying. And in further paragraphs it will be shown by verified records that the dairymen of Oregon enjoy undoubted advantages and consistent success.

A number of dairy experts have visited Oregon and, without notable exception, have commented most favorably upon the suitability of conditions for dairying purposes. Some of them have gone further and made comparisons between Oregon and other sections, always to the advantage of the former.

Prof. G. L. McKay, formerly at the head of the dairy department at Ames Agricultural College and at present secretary of the National Association of Creamery Butter Manufacturers, who has investigated dairy conditions in the Old World countries of Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and the Jersey Isles, said after a visit to this State: "In my judgment, there is no place on earth where dairy products can be produced as cheaply as in Oregon."

Prof. C. Larsen, dairy instructor in the agricultural college of South Dakota, visited Oregon in 1907, at which time he said: "This State will in time lead all others in dairy products."

Mr. F. H. Scribner, prominent dairy man and institute lecturer in Wisconsin, and breeder of the world's famous cow, Loretta D., who toured Oregon and Washington recently, judging stock at the leading fairs, said in his speech before the Albany Commercial Club: "Dairying can be carried on here in the Willamette Valley more cheaply than anywhere else in the country. Because of the favorable climatic conditions farmers here are not compelled to house their stock so many months as in some states. The mild climate here makes possible the growing of green feeds through the entire year, and these facts are responsible for the small expenditure required here in dairying. Under these conditions, instead of $17,000,000, as at present, your yearly revenue from this industry should amount to $70,000,000." On his own eighty-acre farm in Wisconsin, Mr. Scribner keeps a herd consisting of about ninety registered Jerseys, making more than one cow to the acre. Still he considers Oregon a better dairy State than any other in the country.

Professor Carlyle, dean of the agricultural college of Colorado, who, because of his thorough knowledge of livestock breeding, has been selected by the United States Government to carry on the important work of developing an American breed of carriage horses, in an address before the Oregon Pure-Bred Livestock Breeders' Association, at the Oregon State Fair in 1908, said: "On three different occasions it has been my privilege to critically examine the livestock exhibited at this State Fair. I find that your properly fitted stock possesses a finish and a fineness of quality which I rarely find elsewhere. * * * This country of green grass, big trees and mild climate is especially adapted to the work of improving our various breeds of livestock."

## Advantage of Climate.

An enumeration, then, of conditions that operate to the advantage of the Oregon dairymen, would include first and foremost, climate. In Western Oregon where most of the dairy cows are found, the climate is characterized by an absence of extremes either of heat or cold. Winters are mild and open, with very little snow. In consequence, milk production suffers no considerable falling off in winter. The dairyman effects a very material saving in buildings. Expensive barns are neither necessary nor are they generally found in Western Oregon. Protection from the rain is needed, and good buildings with dry floors are, of course, desirable; but a saving of 30 per cent to 50 per cent can be made without suffering any serious disadvantage. Moreover, by reason of the milder weather, the farmer saves in his feed cost. He does not have to feed "to keep out the cold," and a larger percentage of the ration goes to the production of milk. As the cow is not confined, she is more healthy and less liable to disease. Of even greater importance is the relation of the open winter to feed production. The statement that for the Oregon dairyman there is available a supply of green food from the field throughout the entire winter season is one of great significance. Ask the Wisconsin and Illinois dairyman what difference a supply of succulent fodder from the fields would make in his business and his answer will serve well to emphasize the advantage of the Oregon dairyman in this respect.

The relatively cool weather of Oregon summers and comparative absence of flies and mosquitoes both operate to the advantage of the Oregon cow. There is a disadvantage, it is conceded, in the drought which generally prevails in July and August. This condition the dairyman meets by drying up his cows, as far as possible, in June or July, or by regulating feed production to meet the condition.

In Eastern Oregon it is colder in winter and warmer in summer. Low humidity, however, modifies both extremes. This section, it is understood, is semi-arid, and, in so far as dairy cows are concerned, is largely dependent upon irrigation for the production of food. Weather conditions are less uniform, but, in general, there is little severe weather and cows run out 8 or 9 months of the year. In this section all livestock is remarkably healthy and the cow is no exception.

In Eastern Oregon, dairying is confined largely to districts that have been reclaimed by irrigation. In such districts, alfalfa is a staple crop, and where alfalfa is grown there the dairy cow will thrive. Creameries in these sections are among the most successful of any in the State, and dairymen are prosperous to a corresponding degree.

## Breeds of Cows.

The preferred breeds of cows are the Jersey, Holstein, Guernsey and Ayrshire, in the order named. There is a fair percentage of registered animals and a good proportion of grades.

According to the records of the American Jersey Cattle Club, the Jersey herd with the greatest producing capacity is owned in Oregon. This herd has 6 world's records to its credit—more than any other herd of Jerseys in the United States.

In Oregon and the Northwest, as well as all over the United States, good dairy cows are very scarce and command high prices. The high prices received for milk, cream and butter have stimulated their production, and comparatively few calves have been raised to replenish the herds. From $60 to $75 is the price now received for a dairy cow of average grade, and the demand is far in excess of the supply. Within the last few years a large number of registered dairy cattle have been sold to buyers from the Orient, and this new field, the possibilities of which can hardly be overestimated, will readily absorb all the stock of this kind that can be grown. At present, however, the question is where to find dairy cows to supply home demand.

It is estimated by the Dairy and Food Commissioner of Oregon that there are 200,000 dairy cows in the State. Most of them are in small herds—ten cows or less, and thus represent merely a side issue in the scheme of farm management.

In Oregon, dairy cows freshen in the fall as well as in the spring. Among the most enlightened dairymen, the tendency is toward fall freshening, as by this method, cows are dry during the summer months, when there is always a greater or less shortage of feed, and come fresh for the winter when dairy products bring higher prices.

## Feeding Practice.

Methods of feeding vary, of course, with the individual farmers, and are affected by the character of the soil.

The practices set forth are such as are followed by the more progressive dairymen and correspond to the methods advised in a recent bulletin issued by the Oregon Dairy and Food Commissioner.

The year is naturally divided into three feeding seasons. The first, or winter season, lasts from October first to April first; the second, spring, or grass period, until toward the last of June; the third, including the summer months. For winter feeding, vetch hay and kale constitute the preferred ration. Vetch is successfully grown throughout all of Western Oregon. It is very rich in protein and is considered the best hay for this section. Next to vetch is clover hay. Alfalfa is being introduced into Western Oregon, but as yet has not gained a sufficient foothold to justify a recommendation for use as a hay crop.

In so far as foodstuffs are concerned, kale represents the greatest advantage that the Oregon dairyman enjoys. The value of a constant supply of succulent food from the field throughout the winter months can hardly be exaggerated. Kale is easily grown in Oregon and yields 25 tons to the acre. It is relished by the cow and is an excellent milk producer. For a small herd a patch of kale enables the farmer to dispense with a silo.

While not indispensable, the silo is certainly of great value, especially if the herd be large. For filling the silo, corn is used, with vetch or clover as substitutes.

All of the roots do well, especially in the bottom lands or in the coast counties, where they make unusual growth. They include rutabagas, turnips, beets and mangels, and are of value as a supplementary food. Kale, however, takes precedence over all other succulent foods for winter feeding, and is the unfailing dependence of the progressive Oregon dairyman.

Of the concentrates, bran, shorts and oats are fed, although the cow will do with rather less grain than in the East. In the spring, the herd is turned on to pasture—either of native grass, or, preferably, of clover.

The dry summer months represent the really difficult period for the Oregon dairyman. To meet this condition, the more enlightened dry up as many as possible of their cows to freshen in the fall. By the use of a silo, however, and a judicious planting of soilage crops, the season of dry pasture may be successfully passed. Crops for soiling include vetch, oats and peas. Early sweet corn and pumpkins are of value. Although alfalfa is not cultivated to any great extent for hay, it is strongly advised for feed during the summer months, as it stands drouth better than any plant that can be used. Summer kale is also being advocated for this purpose.

For Eastern Oregon, the feeding practice is simple and uniform.

Here alfalfa is the standard food for all seasons. It is the ideal cow feed, whether pastured or cut and fed as soilage crop or hay. If properly cured, it retains a large degree of its succulence. It produces from 6 to 9 tons per acre a year. An acre of alfalfa pasturage will more than provide feed for a cow the year around, with a little bran or shorts in three months of the year.

## Marketing.

As to methods of marketing dairy products, Oregon does not differ materially from other states. Creameries and condenseries are located at strategic points all throughout Western Oregon. Not many farmers are so isolated as to be off the itinerary of a milk route, and in most localities there is active competition for the milk or cream, so the farmer is assured of a top-price for his product. Except in sections tributary to condenseries or to a city milk supply, the farmer sells the cream only, and the hand separator is in general use. Average price for butter fat, sour, is 32 cents. A bonus of 1½ to 5 cents is received for sweet cream.

Condenseries pay around $1.90 per cwt. for milk testing 4 per cent butter fat.

A very considerable portion of the dairy business of Oregon is devoted to supplying milk and cream for Portland consumers. The city draws from a radius of from 20 to 50 miles. Perhaps one-half of the milk is distributed by the producers themselves, and one-half through distributing depots. If the farmers sell to middle men, they receive 18 cents to 20 cents per gallon, or $2 to $2.20 per cwt. The distributers more than double the price of milk to the public. Prevailing prices for milk are $3 a month for a quart a day, $6 a month for two quarts, with some reduction for larger amounts. Even at these high prices, there is no small difficulty in Portland in securing an adequate supply of good milk. The city is growing so rapidly that there is no reason to apprehend any change in the relation of supply to demand.

## Profits.

As to the profits derivative from dairying in Oregon, they are estimated conservatively at $50 per cow net over food cost. The gross returns from a good dairy cow under proper care are $100 to $110 per annum. The average cost of feed is not over $55. In the gross returns no consideration is given to the value of the skimmed milk, the calf or the manure. These should easily offset the labor cost and the interest on the investment, leaving the difference between the revenue from the milk and the cost of food a clear profit.

In this connection, the report of a certain herd is pertinent and informatory. This herd consisted of nine high-grade Jerseys, possibly a little above the average for the State. The owner was a member of a cow-testing association. His animals were housed in an inexpensive but comfortable and well-lighted barn with ordinary stalls. He sold his milk to the condensery for $1.90 per cwt. at his own door. His average monthly returns were $15.70 per cow. Average feed cost, $7.95; net profits per cow, $7.75. At the time of this test—October, 1909—his ration for each cow consisted of 20 pounds of oat hay, 50 pounds of turnips, 8½ pounds of oats and bran.

From this test it was deduced that the food cost could be reduced by substituting kale for the turnips, and cutting down the amount of concentrates. The next year the same herd, but two less in number, received a ration per animal of 20 pounds of oat hay, 35 pounds of kale, 6 pounds of bran and shorts. Food cost, $6.08 per cow per month. At this time his cows were returning $19.11 each per month, leaving a net profit of $13.03 per month. In this no deduction is made for loss of revenue through the period in which the cow was dry. All foodstuffs are figured at market value. The cows in this herd were worth $90 to $100 each.

Entirely aside from the advantage possessed by the Oregon farmer in the way of climate, food, etc., is the greater price that he received for his product. It is not the policy of the organization under whose auspices this booklet is issued to make comparisons. But in this connection it seems difficult to avoid doing so. Illinois is taken for this purpose as being a typical dairying state in the East. As between Illinois and Oregon, the price for butter fat for the past five years has been five cents per lb. in favor of the latter state. If the cost of production were the same, then the Oregon dairyman would have an advantage of 16.5 per cent.

To get at the relative cost of feed, use is made of a comparison in a publication termed ''Dairying in Benton County, Oregon'', in which reliable statistics are presented that illuminate this matter.

Using the ration favored in Illinois, and supposing that roughage —hay, silage, roots, etc.—have practically the same value in both states, it appears that bran, shorts and oil cake meal cost the dairyman more in Oregon than in Illinois—$4 a ton more for bran and shorts and $8 more for oil meal. But weight must be given the fact that the Oregon dairyman finds it unnecessary to feed so large a measure of concentrates and that he can produce a plant—the thousand-headed kale—that is decidedly cheaper than any food of equal value that can be produced in Illinois.

In this connection, the record of the famous Oregon cow, Adelaide of Beechlands, is used. This authenticated yearly record was completed November 24, 1908, and at that time was the world's record.

| Production: | Illinois value, 1908. | Oregon. |
|---|---|---|
| Lbs. milk, 15,572 | | |
| Lbs. fat, 849.62 | | |
| Estimated butter, 999.55 | at 27c, $269.88 | at 33.2c, $331.85 |

| Feed consumed: | Illinois cost. | Oregon. |
|---|---|---|
| Bran, 942 lbs | $11.30 | $13.19 |
| Oats, 632 lbs | 9.57 | 9.57 |
| Oil meal, 268 lbs | 4.29 | 5.36 |
| Hay, 3,017 lbs | 13.82 | 13.82 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Carrots, 1,208 lbs. | 12.21 | 12.21 |
| Kale, 7,445 lbs. (silage value) | 7.54 | 3.72 |
| Clover pasture (four months) | 6.00 | 6.00 |
| | $64.73 | $63.87 |

Return over feed cost, Illinois conditions, $205.15.
Return over feed cost, Oregon conditions, $267.98.
Difference in favor of Oregon conditions, $62.83.

It is not intended to convey the impression that every cow in Oregon will show this remarkable profit. The case of this cow was used because the complete figures were available. But the comparison will hold for any cow, except that the less the production, the less the gross advantage will be. The relative advantage will be the same in all cases.

## Creameries, Etc.

In Oregon there are about seventy creameries in operation, seven condenseries and fifty cheese factories. The last-named are confined to the Coast district and largely to Tillamook and Coos counties. Here the cow population is very dense and the efforts of the farmers are successfully concentrated upon the production of milk for cheese-making purposes. The product is of a superior quality and commands a premium over cheese imported to Oregon. As yet most of the cheese is taken by the markets of the State or Coast, but there is no reason why it could not be shipped to other markets, and if production ever overtakes consumption, this will undoubtedly be done.

## Tuberculosis.

The question of tuberculosis is of vital importance to dairymen. In general, the percentage of tuberculous cows in Oregon is low—one per cent in Eastern Oregon and three per cent in Western Oregon outside the district tributary to Portland. In this district the restricted conditions and the frequent exchange of cows from herd to herd and the greater likelihood of contagion have brought the percentage of affected cows to a higher figure. There is a law on the statute books of Oregon requiring the death of any cow showing visible symtoms of tuberculosis. Moreover, Portland has an ordinance that any dairyman selling milk in Portland must submit to such a test. This has been vigorously enforced, but very recently was declared unconstitutional. It is now purposed to enact a state law encouraging dairymen to submit to the test by offering to indemnify them, in whole or in part, for the loss of any animals reacting from the test. This is an equitable adjustment of the issue, and meets with the approval of the dairymen. Fifty per cent of the cows re-acting are, in no ordinary sense, sick cows, but are fully capable of performing their functions and, to the layman, exhibit no symptoms of disease whatsoever. Under these circumstances, it is not reasonable to expect the owner to accept a law which might cause the loss of a large part of his herd without recompense. If the public is to benefit by this loss it is but just that the public should share the loss.

To the dairyman, the problem of ''help'' is a serious one. It is no less so in Oregon than elsewhere. Good men are paid from $20 to $30 a month in winter, with board, and up to $40 in summer. For these prices it is possible to secure competent help. The only solution of the problem is in the introduction of milking machines. Fortunately, these devices have been sufficiently perfected to be practicable and are being generally adopted among the more progressive dairymen with large herds.

## Stock Raising.

Conditions surrounding the production of livestock in Oregon make it one of the State's most attractive industries. The mild, even climate enables the feeder to do with less expensive buildings and sheds. In many cases these are dispensed with altogether. A substantial reduction in the cost of feed is likewise effected. As in the case of the milch cow, a less proportion of the feed goes to maintain bodily warmth, and the growth of the animal is not arrested by severe or protracted cold. In the summer there is no extreme heat, nor are there the swarms of flies to harass the animal. Summer conditions prevail practically all the year. Stock run out 8 or 9 months, and, not infrequently, the entire 12 months of the year. Their general condition is better and there is no loss through blizzards, floods or destructive storms. A high degree of healthfulness is observed in all livestock in Oregon. There is little heaves or glanders in horses, cholera in hogs, stomach worm in sheep or other prevalent diseases. The pasturing season is long and green feed is always available. Another factor of prime importance is the great amount of cheap range to which the stockmen of Oregon have access. This includes both the public range in the United States National Forests and the large areas of private range in forest, logged-off land, brush land, etc.

Added to these, the existence of a splendid market at the Union Stock Yards in Portland completes a set of conditions that, for the stockman leaves little to be desired.

The number of stock allowed to graze each year upon the National Forest Reserve is determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. The fees and the length of the grazing season are fixed by the Forester, acting through his subordinates, the District Forester and the Supervisor. The grazing regulations are designed to conserve the forests, to benefit the livestock industry, and to protect the settler and homebuilder.

In new forests, the full number of stock is allowed to graze; then, if reduction seems necessary, stockmen are given ample time in which to adjust their business. In general, cattle and horses are allowed to graze in all forests. Sheep and goats are allowed to graze, but under restrictions as to area and period. The number of horses and cattle permitted to use the National Forests in Oregon is 163,050 head; sheep and goats, 962,500 head. For the summer grazing season the rates charged are for cattle, 25 cents per head; for horses, 35 cents per head; sheep, 6 to 9 cents. For the year-long period, 40 to 50 cents for cattle; 50 to 65 cents for horses; 15 cents for sheep. In allotting the grazing privileges, preference is given, first, the small nearby owners; second, the large nearby owners; third, transient or distant owners. Priority of use is also taken into consideration. Much valuable aid is given by the Department of Agriculture through its subordinates in promoting the welfare of the flocks and herds.

## Cattle.

Candor compels the admission that, in Oregon, the feeding and fattening of beef cattle has not heretofore received a great deal of attention. The Year Book of the Department of Agriculture gives the State but 698,000 head of stock of this kind. It is insisted, however, that this inattention was not due to any defect in conditions that promote the success of the industry, but to the lack of regular market conditions, a defect that has now been rectified. At a recent fat stock show held at the Portland Yards, the display of cattle, sheep and hogs demonstrated the fact that Oregon can successfully compete with any State in breeding, feeding and in the profit therefrom.

In Eastern Oregon cattle are fed on the range for eight or nine months of the year. For the winter months they are brought to the sheltered valleys and fed alfalfa and other hay. It is estimated that one ton of hay is an ample allowance to carry an animal through the winter. With alfalfa, no grain is needed to bring the animal to market weight. Steers fattened on alfalfa compete successfully with corn-fed stock at Omaha and other stock markets.

In Western Oregon the feeding practice is similar, except that the grazing season is longer and vetch and clover hay are fed in place of alfalfa.

Many prize winners are to be found in the State and the grade is being steadily improved.

The establishment of the public stock yards at Portland has provided a convenient market and should effect an increase in the industry.

## Sheep.

Oregon still retains its place as one of the great sheep feeding sections, ranking sixth among all the states of the Union. By the Department of Agriculture, the number of sheep in Oregon is placed at 2,634,000; value, $8,165,000. By far the larger number are fed in Eastern Oregon, where the vast areas of grazing land—semi-arid, and, as yet, unreclaimed by irrigation—are valuable for little else. Here the business is conducted on an immense scale. Flocks numbering thousands of sheep are put on the range in the care of a herder aided by a collie. The sheep are mostly Merino fine wools, crossed with mutton breeds. The range season lasts from May until October. Then the sheep are brought in to the home ranch, where they graze as long as feed is available. When the grass is exhausted or covered with snow, the sheep are fed alfalfa or beardless barley hay and oats. The lambing season is in March and April. Then the sheep are sheared and sent out to the range once more, while the surplus stock is driven to the nearest shipping point.

In Eastern Oregon sheep are raised for wool and mutton, especially the former. The industry has been and still is very profitable, and has made fortunes for those engaged in it.

In Western Oregon there is much less available range, flocks are smaller and methods of feeding approach very nearly to farm conditions. Sheep are raised for wool and for early spring lambs. The grade of stock is high and there is a large percentage of registered animals. This part of the State has a wide reputation for producing superior stock for breeding purposes, and the sale of rams to head the flocks in other sections adds materially to the profits of the industry. The preferred breeds are the ''long wools''—Cotswolds and Lincolns, and the ''middle wools''—Shropshires, Hampshires and Southdowns.

It is a recognized fact that an animal bred and habituated through many generations to certain conditions will always thrive best under a similar environment. This may explain the fact that Western Oregon is uniquely favorable for the development of sheep of these breeds, and here they reach a perfection not exceeded, if equaled, elsewhere in the United States. This is shown both in the fleece, which is unusually heavy and of the finest quality, and in the rapid growth, size, health and vigor of the animals themselves.

The lambing season is from January to March. On account of the favorable climatic conditions the increase is very large, running as high as 150 per cent. Sheep will find feed on the range or in pasture practically the entire year, but are usually brought in for winter feeding and lambing. Rape is sown for pasture, and clover and vetch hay, with kale for green fodder, and oats, form the principal part of the ration.

In the Year Book of 1909, Department of Agriculture, the average weight of fleece for Oregon sheep is given as 8½ pounds—exceeded by but one other state in the Union. The total amount of the wool clip for 1909 was 15,725,000 pounds.

It is worthy of note that whereas in the Eastern states the annual loss from inclement weather is about 25 per cent, in Oregon it is practically nothing.

Although it is inevitable that the extent of range available for sheep feeding will grow less with the encroachment of agriculture, yet improved methods of feeding constantly tend to increase the number of sheep that can be supported on a given area. The number of sheep in Oregon in January, 1910, was greater by one-half million than the number in April, 1908. The business is on an assured and permanent basis and represents one of the real and imperishable assets of the State.

## Swine.

On first consideration, the admission that Oregon raises but fifteen per cent of the pork consumed within its own boundaries would appear to be evidence against the profitableness of the industry. On the contrary, it is but proof of the immense opportunities that exist in this branch of animal husbandry. Men who are qualified to speak are emphatic in the statement that the feeding and fattening of swine presents the greatest possibilities for large and consistent profits. There is good authority for the assertion that pork can be produced more cheaply in Oregon than in the Middle West and the price for swine at the Union Stock Yards in Portland is consistently higher than that in Chicago for the same grade.

In Eastern Oregon, where alfalfa is a staple crop, hogs make rapid growth on alfalfa pasture without other feed. In Western Oregon, vetch, clover and rape are fed. Barley and wheat are used to finish. Skim milk and other by-products of the farm are fed to advantage.

At the Experiment Station operated in connection with the Oregon Agricultural College, is has been demonstrated by careful experiment that a hog can be brought to 150 pounds weight at a food cost of 4 cents for each pound and can be fattened to 250 pounds upon 450 pounds of wheat and barley. That represents a profit of 100 per cent on food cost, figuring grain and hogs at prevailing prices.

The industry is especially profitable when followed as an adjunct to dairying, and droves of swine will be found in connection with many of the dairy herds of the State.

## Goats.

In the number of Angora goats, Oregon ranks second only to Texas. She produces from 40 to 50 per cent of the mohair sheared in the United States and the mohair is superior to that from any other section. These statements are made on the authority of the National Secretary of the Angora Goat Association. The mohair has an exceptionally long and fine staple with a high lustre and is in demand at premium prices. It averages 4 lbs. per animal and runs up to 10 or 12 lbs. It sells for 25 cents to 40 cents a pound. But the finest grades, 12 to 22 inches long, bring $1.00 to $6.00 a pound.

Goats serve a dual purpose in Oregon. Not only do they make a return to the owners in kids and mohair, but they will easily pay their board by the work they do in clearing land. Turned on to brush or logged-off land they will provide a good living for themselves, and, at the same time, kill a large percentage of vegetation by nibbling off the buds and shoots and leaves as fast as they appear. The goat is a valuable ally to the rancher who has uncleared land and an important factor in the success of many an Oregon farmer. Two goats, it is estimated, will clear an acre in a year.

## Horses and Mules.

The statement of conditions that favor stock in general throughout Oregon will be found to apply to horses and mules. An even climate and an abundance of good feed, with pasture a large part of the year and green food all the year combine to produce healthy, robust animals that bring excellent prices. The vast amount of work now being done in building up the towns and cities, constructing railroads and irrigation systems, etc., has created a great demand for draft horses, and as the work of developing the resources of Oregon has really just begun, there is no reason why the breeder of horses or mules should not be assured a ready market for all the draft animals he can produce.

## The Union Stock Yards.

Of the utmost importance to the stock feeding industry in Oregon and the Northwest was the establishment of the Union Stock Yards at Portland in September, 1909. The opening of the big plant has meant the introduction of modern methods of buying and selling by competition under favorable conditions, and a decided impetus to the industry has resulted.

The volume of business for the first year of the Stock Yards is large enough to justify fully the belief of the promoters, and will undoubtedly show a substantial increase in succeeding years. For the first 12 months, receipts were as follows: cattle, 90,735; calves, 8,162; hogs, 95,670; sheep, 153,971; horses and mules, 1,911. Total, 350,449. Total carload receipts, 5,568.

Of these, about 40 per cent were transshipped to packers, shippers and feeders. The remainder were absorbed by the local markets.

At the Stock Exchange, some 30 buyers make their headquarters, representing the entire Pacific Coast north of California.

Very pertinent is the fact that the average price paid at the Portland Union Stock Yards for live hogs was $10.31 per cwt., or nearly 2 cents a pound higher than the average price at Chicago.

With such excellent marketing facilities, with a demand far outstripping the supply, and with general conditions that leave little to be desired, an awakened interest in stock raising is apparent, and there is reason to hope that this profitable industry will soon occupy the place it so richly merits—among the first of Oregon's resources.

For further information regarding Oregon or Portland write to The Portland Chamber of Commerce, 69-5th Street, Portland Oregon.